

REMARKS

The Examiner has discounted the preamble of the claims for patentability. Applicant has amended the claims to address the Examiner's objection. The invention as now claimed is a method for storing an adhesive in which the adhesive is stored in a frozen state in a thin walled or thin walled and roughened container. None of the art presented by the Examiner discloses or suggests the storage of the adhesive in a frozen state in a thin walled or thin walled and roughened container.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 to 5 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Dyke (5,326,603). Applicant respectfully traverses. Van Dyke discloses a mold for a dispensing applicator and the dispensing applicator. The claims as now amended are directed to a method of storing an adhesive in a frozen state, which is not anticipated by Van Dyke.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 to 7 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Van Dyke (5,326,603) in view of Bergner (5,827,456). Applicant respectfully traverses. Bergner teaches that the textured inner and outer surfaces are of a configuration that stiffens the walls of the plastic bottle (see claim 1). This teaches away from applicant's invention, for which it is an advantage to have more compliant container walls as more compliant walls prevent separation (delamination) between the frozen adhesive and roughened inner syringe wall, thus preventing the formation of freeze/thaw voids, a term used to describe the formation of pockets of air between a syringe wall and a thawed material, such as an adhesive, after it has been stored in a frozen state. The purpose of roughening the walls in the instant invention is not to make the container stiffer, but to increase the mechanical strength of adhesion of the adhesive material to the container walls and thus prevent separation (delamination) between the frozen adhesive and roughened inner syringe wall. The result is a reduced level of freeze-thaw voids.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 to 5 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Batson (US 5,015,784). Batson discloses an applicator syringe for cyanoacrylate adhesives in which the syringe comprises a generally sealed barrel containing a plunger with a non-stick polymeric seal and a hydrocarbon grease disposed between the seal and the adhesive. Batson neither discloses nor

teaches that the walls of the syringe are thin and compliant or roughened, nor discloses or teaches that the adhesives are stored in a frozen state. Indeed, in Example 5 in column 5, it is stated that the adhesives were stored at room temperature.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 to 4 and 6 to 7 under 35 USC 103 (a) as unpatentable over Batson in view of Okamoto. Okamoto appears to be directed to a syringe within a syringe in which the interior syringe consists of a split face. The surfaces in contact with each other and the gasket are roughened so that there is small sliding friction, *top of page 2*. Nevertheless, Okamoto is not directed to the storage of adhesives in a frozen state in a container with thin or roughened walls, and thus, it adds no weight to the Batson reference.

Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to the conclusion that the above references neither anticipate nor make obvious the current invention and that the claims are in condition for allowance.